CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method of managing assets for an entity, comprising:

2   providing an on-line internal trading community;

3   enabling the entity to form an on-line private trading community with authorized

4 business partners;

5   enabling the entity to participate in an on-line public marketplace;

6   permitting the entity to list select assets with each of the on-line internal trading

7 community, the on-line private trading community, and the on-line public marketplace;

8   allowing the entity to view available assets listed on the on-line internal trading

9 community, the on-line private trading community, and the on-line public marketplace; and

10   providing workflow for automating aspects of executing a transaction through any

11 one of the on-line internal trading community, the on-line private trading community, and the

12 on-line public marketplace.

1   2.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein providing the on-line internal

2 trading community comprises defining authorized users and roles of the users.

1   3.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein enabling the entity to form the on-

2 line private trading community comprises participating in an on-line exchange.

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1   4.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein enabling the entity to form the on-

2   line private trading community comprises forming a business relationship with a broker of

3   assets.

1   5.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein permitting the entity to list select

2   assets comprises enabling the entity to place each asset on any of the on-line private trading

3   community, the on-line internal trading community, and the on-line public marketplace.

1   6.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein allowing the entity to view assets

2   comprises providing a search capability for enabling a user to search for desired assets.

1   7.   The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein providing the search capability

2   comprises providing a capability of browsing through categories of assets.

1   8.   The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein providing the search capability

2   comprises providing a capability of searching by keyword.

1   9.   The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein providing the search capability

2   comprises providing a capability of tracking certain assets.

1   10.   The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein providing the search capability

2   comprises providing a capability of being alerted when desired assets become listed in one of

3   the on-line private trading community, the on-line internal trading community, and the on-

4   line public marketplace.

1   11.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein providing workflow comprises

2   providing workflow for inspecting assets prior to listing the assets.

1   12.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein providing workflow comprises

2   providing workflow for procuring assets.

1   13.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein providing workflow comprises

2   providing workflow for listing assets.

1   14.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein providing workflow comprises

2   providing an approval workflow for obtaining necessary authorizations within the entity.

1   15.   The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising categorizing assets

2   being listed in at least one of the of the on-line private trading community, the on-line

3   internal trading community, and the on-line public marketplace.

1   16.   The method as set forth in claim 15, further comprising normalizing the

2   categorization of the assets being listed in at least one of the of the on-line private trading

3   community, the on-line internal trading community, and the on-line public marketplace.

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1   17.   The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising providing reporting

2   functionality for enabling a user to manage use of the on-line private trading community, the

3   on-line internal trading community, and the on-line public marketplace.

1   18.   The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising integrating the on-line

2   private trading community, the on-line internal trading community, and the on-line public

3   marketplace with legacy systems.

1   19.   The method as set forth in claim 1, further enabling the entity to view details

2   on assets listed in any of the on-line private trading community, the on-line internal trading

3   community, and the on-line public marketplace.

1   20.   The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein permitting the entity to list

2   comprises enabling the entity to list each asset selectively on any one or combination of the

3   on-line private trading community, the on-line internal trading community, and the on-line

4   public marketplace.